REMARKS

Claims 1-20 are now pending in the application. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection(s) in view of the amendments and remarks contained herein.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-9, 11 and 13-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by De Armas et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,873,064). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

At the outset, Applicants note that claims 1 and 2 have been amended to include, in part, "storing said first utterance of speech as a model in a user-built lexicon". Morevover, claim 15 includes, in part, "a processor for adding user-defined speech to said lexicon". De Armas does not disclose these features.

De Armas teaches a voice action macro method for mapping spoken commands to a given windows application. Each application has various application states. (Column 5, lines 16-18). Each application state is defined by a set of windows objects. (Column 5, lines 18-20). The method of De Armas includes creating a sub-context tree comprising a plurality of sub-context objects for each application state and assigning a set of attributes for each sub-context object. (Column 5, lines 46-49; Figure 2, steps 42-44). Then, at step 46 in Figure 2, "each window object is preferably analyzed to determine an appropriate set of spoken commands which must be uttered by a user in order to activate or act upon the object". (Column 6, lines 45-49). This set of spoken commands defines the vocabulary set 80. (Column 6, lines 43-45). The vocabulary set

80 includes "(1) a sub-context object name 82, which is the spoken command for activating the window object represented by the sub-context object; (2) a private vocabulary 84, which is active when the window object represented by the sub-context object is the foreground window; and (3) a sub-context object command vocabulary 86". (Column 6, lines 57-64). In other words, the vocabulary set 80 used to activate various macros in De Armas is created by analyzing the specific menu word for a given application and assigning the spoken commands *automatically- not by storing utterances as models in a user-built lexicon.*

In contrast, the present invention as described in claims 1, 2, and 15, discloses building the lexicon (e.g. the vocabulary set 80 of De Armas) of spoken commands by using user-defined speech. Rather than performing an automatic analysis and creating a canned set of speech models, the present invention allows the user to customize the lexicon as desired. Accordingly, De Armas fails to teach every element of claims 1,2 and 15. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 10, 12 and 19-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over De Armas et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 5,873,064) in view of Croft (U.S. Pat. No. 6,493,670 B1). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Claims 10, 12, and 19-20 are dependent on claims 2 and 15 and for the reasons set forth above, distinguish over the cited art. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

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